

**SPORTS**

# Rockville Express takes out the Big Train

Mike Brody  
Special to the Sentinel

Usually when a baseball team brings in its third pitcher of a game, that team is either in a tight battle or is simply playing out the string in the later innings. Such was not the case for the Bethesda Big Train on Sunday night.

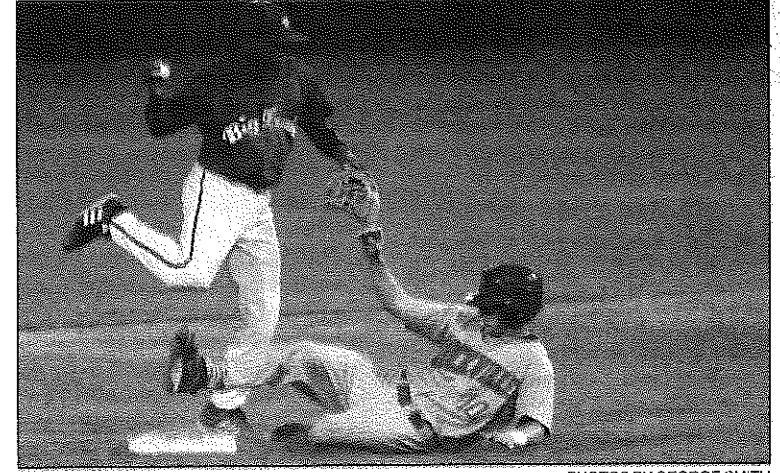
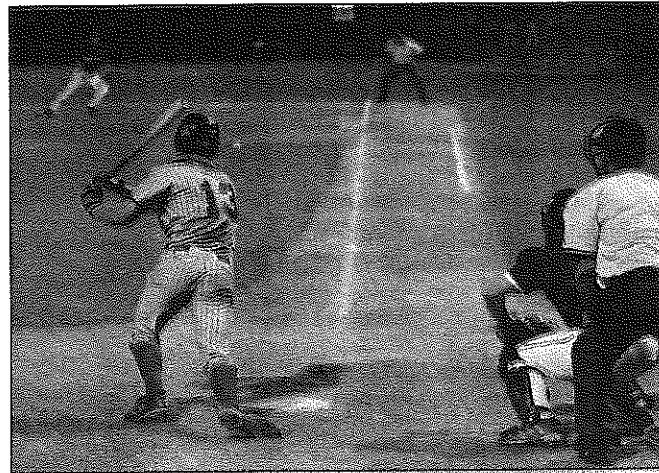
The Big Train had to use three pitchers just to get out of the first three innings against the Rockville Express in front of 628 people at Shirley Povich Field in Bethesda. The Express cruised to a 16-3 victory in a game that was seemingly over shortly after it had begun to improve its record to 5-3.

An ominous first inning set the tone for the game. Big Train starter Evan Frederickson surrendered five runs and failed to make it out of the first inning. But Frederickson was not done in by a hitting barrage from the Express bats as the run totals may have suggested. Five walks ultimately did Frederickson in, as the starter had given up only three hits during his brief stint in the game.

"We just had an approach that he was kind of wild, so we're just going to take a couple of pitches and try to make him throw back-to-back strikes, and he didn't do it," head coach Tom Shaffer said.

The Express sent 11 men to the plate in the first inning, during which RBIs by Mike DeLeeuw, Beau Brooks, Mark Tracy and Pete Fatse helped put the Express up 5-0 before the Big Train had even come to the plate.

After the Big Train sent only three batters to the plate in the bottom of the first inning, the Express tacked on two more runs in the top of the second inning. A small Big Train rally can-



PHOTOS BY GEORGE SMITH

Rockville Express' Kevin Keith hits a line drive up the first base line, left and Pete Fatse slides but can't beat the throw to second, right.

celed out those two runs and got the Big Train to a 7-2 deficit, but that was as close as they would get for the rest of the night.

A Beau Brooks triple in the third inning put the Express up 9-2. Kevin Keith and Mark Tracy combined for three more RBIs in the inning, giving the Express a 12-2 lead midway through the third inning.

"Just getting a few good pitches to hit and putting good swings on them, that's what we talked about before the game today at batting practice," Brooks said.

Connor Hoehn relieved Frederickson for the Big Train but did not fare much better himself, yielding seven runs (four of which were earned) in fewer than two innings of work. Matt Hiserman may have been one of the few bright spots for the Big Train, as he came on to

stop the bleeding as part of his three and two-thirds innings of scoreless pitching.

Express starter Joe Miller, making his first start of the season, pitched five innings and gave up two runs, striking out three batters in the process. Ryan Juran, Wesley Gross and Nick Jones combined to give up one run in their four innings of relief.

"Joe's going to do very well for us this summer," Shaffer said. "Our mid-relief has been a problem for us in the last week-and-a-half, and today they did okay, but it's pretty easy to pitch with a lead of 14 or by 10. So they were just confident today, and they threw strikes. So we hope that in tight ballgames that they can come out and still do the same."

The Express' next game is at home against the Big Train at 5 p.m. on Thursday.

**Rockville 16 (5-3)**

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
Pete Fatse 2b	4	1	2	1	2	0	0	2	0
Eric Allen rf	2	1	0	0	2	2	3	0	3
Sean Baumann rf	2	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	0
Mike DeLeeuw dh	5	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Adam Baker dh	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beau Brooks c	4	3	2	3	1	1	3	0	0
Paul Michael Kings 1b	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Glenn Kiture lf	3	1	0	0	2	1	3	0	4
Kevin Keith cf	4	2	1	3	1	2	2	0	0
Mark Tracy 1b/c	6	2	4	2	0	1	8	3	0
Bruce Alter 3b	4	1	0	1	0	3	0	1	0
Bart Pettus ss	5	1	1	2	1	4	1	2	4
Joe Miller p	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Ryan Juran p	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Wesley Gross p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nick Jones p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>

*Trivore is going to be missed at*